

Vision

A community of diverse families with respect and support for children to achieve their fullest potential.

Values

We believe that:

- Cultural diversity is a strength.
- Each child and family are valued for and proud of their culture, as it is part of who they are.
- To support each child's full development, home culture, heritage and language are maintained and a second culture is introduced in a non-imposing manner. Each culture becomes integrated to become the child's culture.
- Family is considered the primary resource and support to the child's development as well as to any early childhood and out-of-school time care program.
- The teaching of undoing racism and all societal biases is essential for strong Asian and Pacific Islander children, youth, families and communities.
- Each individual culture is a built-in component of our local, national and global community rather than a separate element to a "mainstream culture."

A quality care setting shares all the above values. It expects the best from Asian and Pacific Islander children and youth. It meets or exceeds each family's needs for safety, health, education and enrichment.



To view a complete copy of the *Asian and Pacific Islander Child Care Task Force Action Agenda*, look on the King County web site at:
www.metrokc.gov/dchs/csd/childcare



CONTACT PERSON:

Sili Savusa

Alaska Building, 4th Floor
618 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104-2232

Phone: 206-684-0617

E-mail: sili.savusa@ci.seattle.wa.us

Fax: 206-386-1138



ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER CHILD CARE TASK FORCE



*Taking Steps to Improve the
Quality of Care for
Asian and Pacific Islander Children,
Youth and Families*



Who is the APICCTF?

The Asian and Pacific Islander Child Care Task Force (APICCTF) is a group of Asian and Pacific Islander (A/PI) professionals working in the field of early childhood education, out-of-school time care, education and social services working to address the child care needs of A/PI children and families of King County, Washington.

History

In 1996, the King County Child Care Program allocated funding for the formation of the APICCTIF. The task force was to formally assess the quality of care A/PI children were receiving in licensed programs and to obtain feedback from families regarding the type of care they want for their children.



Participatory Action Research Project Report



APICCTIF utilized a grassroots approach in ensuring input from parents and providers that will inform and guide our work.

Some challenges to achieving our vision were identified through this process:

- Euro-centric practice by providers;
- Gaps between provider and parent perspectives;
- Lack of available training for working with A/PI families;
- Language barriers; parents' reluctance/inability to voice needs related to culture;
- Parents' and providers' lack of knowledge of and skills to support children's second-language acquisition and maintenance of their first language;
- Absence of written and translated information in parent's first language.

Action Agenda

At the community summit, these recommendations became the action agenda goals and objectives for our future work:

- *Program Quality.* Increase the cultural relevance of all programs so that children get appropriate support in their individual intellectual, social, emotional and cultural development.



- *Systemic Change.*
Eliminate the institutional racism of systems connected to early childhood education and out-of-school-time care.
- *Language.* Support children's whole development by supporting children's home language and culture while introducing a second language and culture.
- *Parents and Families.* Parents will feel supported and know how to voice their needs, especially as it relates to culture.
- *Informal Care.* Address the needs and improve the quality of informal care.

